UNITED STATES SATURDAY POST

SAMUEL D. PATTERSON & CO. PUBLISHERS.

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TWO DOLLARS A-YEAR IN ADVANCE.

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A FAMILY NEWSPAPER: NEUTRAL IN POLITICS: DEVOTED TO GENERAL NEWS, LITERATURE, SCIENCE, MORALITY, AGRICULTURE AND AMUSEMENT.

VOLUME XXIV. PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1843. WHOLE NO. 1161.

Original Poetry.

THE HERMIT.

WRITTEN FOR THE UNITED STATES SATURDAY POST.

BY J. TREMPLE

Man of the solitary wood! whose haunts were
Caverns not of this world! whose home was
Caverns not of this world! whose home was
Where no sound but the low murmur of the
What will you find there—and the wild wood
What will you find there—and the wild wood
To hide the fears that haunt your soul? Under!
There shall not these hold converse with the dead!
Although they rise at ye tremble bathe and pale
For visions, dark, dim and, speak the thing
The rest and thrice silent their best repose.
The world's cares cannot there mildly haunt,
And the sweet voice of nature murmurs a pure
Thou to thee that gave thee thy sacred solitude!
Thou to thee that gave thee thy sacred solitude!
Thou to thee that gave thee thy sacred solitude!
Thou to thee that gave thee thy sacred solitude!
What will you find there—and the wild wood
What will you find there—and the wild wood
Love of thee, thou solitude! what for truth?
Has him into the world thou made thee love
For which thy heart is not, and thy soul is not,
Would see thee more single beyond the realm of space!
Now where is thy home—thy home—thy home—
Of more, more, where shadows hope spread,
And thou to see and thou to see the spread,
Thou to see and thou to see the spread,
Thou to see and thou to see the spread,

invalid. As she closed her eyes a tear struggled through their lashes, but it was born of happy feelings and she slept after.

Burke went out to a reading-room and found the advertisement that he sought for. "A house to let ready furnished in a retired part of the city." That night Lucy was removed to her new home. The repose and stillness fell refreshingly on her while she was supported to the chamber prepared for her reception, and she smiled as they laid her on the sunny bed, but there was something on her face that startled the husband, a child came upon him and he turned away to weep.

"Why do you look so sorrowful," said the invalid smiling once more. "I am better now every thing is so quiet—so morrow, next day perhaps, I shall be much better, it is only fatigue you know," her eyes closed as she spoke, and that wretched man heard a sound in her breath that chilled him to the heart. He sank again his knees and the bed shook beneath the violence of his grief.

That night Thomas talked wildly to his wife as she lay so still upon her couch; but she gave him no answer, though the voice of his agony might have kindled a sense of compassion. She breathed not—she moved not—the pillow on which her cold cheek rested had another wrinkle not fold in its snow-white cover. The winding sheet that fell over her lay motionless, like folds of marble around a statue. When he arose in his agony to repentance and pressed his quivering mouth to hers lips they chilled him to the heart and he felt for the first time that she was dead, for it was the first cold kiss she had ever given him.

United States SATURDAY POST.

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY SAMUEL D. PATTERSON & CO.

Philadelphia:

SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 28, 1843.

R. J. WOODWARD AGAIN.

We have received a copy of a receipt for names paid for Graham's Magazine given by that hebetic who has been advertised repeatedly by Philadelphia publishers, as not authorized to receive subscriptions. We repeat the caution, that he is not an agent for any books issued in Philadelphia, to our knowledge, and if people will be swindled by these strollers, they must not complain. The last way is to send money by mail, with the Post Master's frank.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

There is one advantage of a well conducted Family Newspaper, which cannot be too highly estimated. It is natural that the human mind and particularly the young mind, should crave relaxation from serious studies as light reading. It is proper that this appetite should be gratified by wholesome food. The editor who knows and feels his responsibility will take care that no matter unfit to be read in a family finds its way into his paper.

And in the present era of cheap printing this department of the newspapers has become more than ever important. We are sorry to say it, but it is the fact, and should be stated, that there never was a time when so much matter unfit to read, dangerous, mischievous and obscene, was issued from the press as at present. Under the title of cheap competition, ever publication, three or four enough scattered head and thought the land to ruin every young mind in it. Old and exploded indecencies are represented in a form which puts them within the reach of all pockets. And these vile works are hawked about with an openness and effrontery of shame that must strike every true patriot with well founded fear. The foundations of filth and obscenity are cutting deep, and the child may expect, in a few years, to find it almost literally without money and without price.

It becomes the duty of those who occupy respectable positions, whether by wealth or the direct control of others, to lend their influence to the checking of this evil flood. The most effective way which suggests itself is the liberal encouragement of such publications as minister to a better taste. Promotional among these, as we have already remarked, is a well conducted Family Newspaper. In a portion of its contents it supports the character of a WEEKLY MAGAZINE. Besides its original literary matter, which comprises with the monthlies in every sense, the newspaper has the benefit also of the issues of others, and does for its readers what the Magazine may not, in the number of the best current literary novelty in its pages.

In the same proportion that weekly papers should be arranged and prepared with patient and careful attention. It matters less if a daily publication is a month, or twelve hours behind time it may be corrected, but the editor of a weekly newspaper must more carefully weigh his paragraphs. From the moment of arrival the newspaper should be one readers will perceive that it is one unbroken and constant endeavor to make the Saturday Evening Post. And in doing so we have the satisfaction of the knowledge we approval and support of a large list of loyal friends and constant friends and readers. It is unbecoming vanity, under such tokens of approval to suspect that we have done something beyond all approval to suspect that we have done something beyond all approval to suspect that we have done something beyond all

United States SATURDAY POST.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION, &c.

$3 per annum—$2 if paid in advance—$1.25 in advance for six months.

Postmasters are requested to hand these letters address ed to the word "Agent" of the Post Office in each Town. Agents will please endorse their letters with their names or initials.

Other letters will not be taken from the Post Office unless the postage is paid.

Papers discontinued only at the end of the current half year, unless by notice previously at the option of the Publisher of advertisers and the

Small Book Notices of neat Books received in pay ment for our bills.

Agents are earnestly solicited to make quick remittances, unless which it is difficult to keep accounts. They should always state their post Office county and State, as well as to which the paper is to be addressed.

LIST OF AGENTS.

☞ The following agents will still act for the Saturday Post, unless they have probably arrangements for the ☞ TRAVELLING AGENTS for Godey's Magazine, United States Saturday Post, and Lady's Well of Fashion.

☞ We have no travelling agent by the name of Wm Cooper.

C. W. JAMES of Harrison street, Cincinnati, is our Agent for that City and Hamilton county.

SAMUEL H. STEVENSON, assisted by *James H. Stevenson* and *John P. Johnson*, of Nashville.

HENRY M. LEWIS is collecting for us in Alabama and Tennessee.

ISRAEL E. DAVIS is Agent for us in the South and West, and has Notes and Papers in his hands for collection.

WILLIAM A. PILE is Collector for us in Pennsylvania.

JAMES FIELD is our Travelling Agent in New Jersey.

W. H. and W. M. WHEELER are Agents in Alabama.

IAN. CANTON is collecting for us in Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, and parts of Wisconsin and Illinois.

WM. HILLMAN is Nashville, Tenn., is duly empowered to collect accounts and receive Subscriptions for Godey's Magazine, Saturday Post, and Lady's Book. A receipt must either be had from him, or from the Publisher.

Notices of New Works.

The Ladies' Satchel Magazine, for November, is a capital number. Its embellishments consist of an exquisite steel engraving of Innocence, with an accompanying poetical illustration, and a fine wood cut of a bridal illustration, and a plate of colored Fashions. The literature is of the usual high character of this work. Among the literary contents we notice the continuation of "Lucretia Clavering," by the author of "Linda;" "Lizzie Leigh," by the author of "Ruth;" "The Spoiled Child," by the author of "Jane Eyre;" "Wedding Bells," by the author of "Lucretia Clavering;" "Stephen," by Mrs. A. L. Balch; "Lizzie Lorton of Greyrigg," by Mrs. Henry Wood; and a variety of other pieces. Published by J. A. Hoffman, Philadelphia.

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Miscellaneous News

Tuscaloosa Monday.—The Hook-and-Ladder Co. of this city, was started out on the parade ground on Tuesday morning, but unexpectedly to a number of the members, their services were called for the Southern Express Steed-Thief, whom they headed a race under the Hook-and-Ladder Company, and succeeded in capturing the thief, who was lodged in jail. The Hook-and-Ladder Company is composed of some of the most respectable young men of this city, and we are glad to see that they are willing to turn out and assist the police in the discharge of their duties.

Mr. Wm. Moore, of Roxbury, Mass., accompanied by Stephen Bullard of New York, shot and killed a buck, which they brought into camp on Saturday last, after two seasons. The captain left on the following Tuesday, for New York, all in good health and spirits.

Capt. Peter or Nat Bunce, The brig Mary Watson, arrived at New York on Tuesday from Matanzas, reports the death by yellow fever, on the 19th ult., of Capt. Peter or Nat Bunce, of Bridgeport, Conn., aged about 30 years

Sketches of Travel.

THINGS IN VIRGINIA.

Natural curiosities in the State—The Natural Bridge—Height—A single arch of stone—Remarks it seen for—The ruins beneath—How made by the action of water—Commercially invalid for transit—Its worth in connection with a tunnel—Virgil's Cave—How discovered—Its general features—Income from exhibition of its apartments—Others may yet be discovered—Mortal effects of condescending those wonders of Nature.

There are several natural curiosities in Virginia that are always the objects of interest to travelers. The *natural bridge*, fourteen miles southwest of Lexington, is one of Nature's grandest exhibitions of unsurpassed architecture. A deep cut ravine, only about one hundred feet in width, is spanned by an arch of stone, nicely keyed in its thickness, so gracefully turned that it more nearly resembles a work of art than an accidental result. In width, one finds it to be four rods, and over it passes all the turnpike travel of a great Virginia road. It is precisely in the place where a bridge is wanted—want it not there, one must have been necessarily erected. From the top of this beautiful structure, to the bottom of the valley, it is about three hundred feet, and the view above and under the bridge, and looks up, the massive piers of the arch—a solid stone, appearing as though born into its present curve in a melted condition of the material of which it is composed—it is the grandest object in America. A tall tree growing by the side of the little stream that trickles along by the side of the ravine, makes but a poor show of altitude, contrasted with the height of the bridge above its top.

From a geological examination of the region of country where this extraordinary curiosity is located, it is evident that there was a mighty rush of water down the present line of the valley, from a north westerly direction. In its rapid descent down an inclined plane, it wore away whatever constituted the bed of the river, till the water came in contact with the top of the resisting bridge. It then swept from side to side—and smoothed by the friction of millions upon millions of boulders and gravel forced over its face.

By the ceaseless action of the water, urged on by an untiring flood from above, it finally drilled through the softer material which might have filled the space between the abutments. This was no sooner accomplished, than the opening was rapidly enlarged, as in the end of the entire gutter, of three hundred feet, perpendicular depth, by about ninety in width, was wholly wrought by the action of the water. In that way, we suppose, the bridge was actually made. At present, it belongs to a farm, on which there is a lot of a tavern, and the whole is valued at about fifteen thousand dollars. Neither farm nor house would be worth a farthing without the appendage of the bridge. High up, at a difficult point of access, are the letters G. W. cut by General Washington in his youth, whilst traversing the neighborhood as a surveyor of public lands.

Virginia is distinguished for its caves—Weyer's cave, eighteen miles south of Staunton, belongs to the catalogue of wonders, and always will. On the side of a limestone hill—thirty-four yards high, a farmer's hand man, *Weir*, who had set several traps, from time to time, for small animals—in some mysterious manner—lost them. It so happened one day, that in a crevice of the rocks, he traced the flight of one of his traps—dragged in by a fox, if we remember rightly. He went to work in earnest to remove it by enlarging the opening which, to his amazement, revealed to his astonished vision an immense cavern. The discovery was immediately noised abroad, and long before the farm of Mr. Maher, father of the present proprietor, measures were at once taken to explore its vast and heretofore unknown recesses. Lanterns within the reach of a limestone ridge, that appeared to be an almost solid rock. Guide books contain minute descriptions of Weir's cave, and hence are exhaustless—one out of its separate rooms or contents, would be unavailable a repetition of what is already published.

The entire length of the cave, is five hundred yards—each apartment being on a separate plane—the ground down which—at each step there is a distinct chamber, communicating with others by a narrow passage between low rocks.

It is a fairy scene, to gaze on the glittering crystallizations overhead, and on the vibrating wands of fairy under-ground halls in the glare of a torch. A constant current of strangers are daily flocking to the traveling season—and a corner demands a toll of one dollar from each person who enters, and four persons a very common occurrence from an exhibition of his single palace under the hill.

Near Weir's, is Madison's cave, known to Mr. Jefferson as long ago as when he wrote Notes on Virginia. Owing to the smoke of lamps or torches, used to light the interior during the time it was visited, workmen entered the earth to the bottom for manufacturing saltpetre, there is nothing particularly engaging to be seen.

Other caves undoubtedly exist near by, which, excellent soil reveal at some future period. Although not to be compared with the cave which Kentucky, West is as very remarkable in many respects, and worth a journey of a thousand miles. It is one of those wonderful works of Almighty Power, which impresses us with a sense of man's own weakness and insignificance, when confronted with the works of an Omniscient Creator.—*Lexington Transcript.*

Light Reading.

MACKAY, THE JOKER.

There used to be in Boston, a most unbelievable practical joker, by the name of Maugh Mackay. No time of peace was too sacred for him. It was for business and like. One of his jokes is said to resemble as follows. It is old, but just as good as new.

One glorious Sabbath morning, Mackay went to church by letter, took his seat in a vacant pew, put under the cushion of the pulpit, and sat still upright with his arms folded, as with an apparent degree of unctional regularity, down to his soles. He was presently surrounded by half a dozen females, each of whom were strangers to his person, and at a little time the whole church was full to overflowing. The psalm was sung, the prayer was said, the sermon delivered in the preacher's best style. He dwelt particularly on the topic—nature of the great precept of brotherly love, upon the beauty of universal benevolence, on the pleasures which arises not only from thinking and acting right, but from doing so with an apparent degree of unctional regularity, down to his soles. He was presently surrounded by half a dozen females, each of whom were strangers to his person, and at a little time the whole church was full to overflowing. The psalm was sung, the prayer was said, the sermon delivered in the preacher's best style. He dwelt particularly on the topic—nature of the great precept of brotherly love, upon the beauty of universal benevolence, on the pleasures which arises not only from thinking and acting right, but from doing so from attention to the minute and graceful courtesies and charities of life, by which the [illegible] is softened and adorned. In the course of the entities in such matters, "there was not a dry eye in the place," the appeal was made to the heart by female [illegible]. All Mackay's charitable neighbors were sensibly affected, he wept with them, the big tears chased each other in his cheeks. But while every one was busy with their handkerchiefs, wiping away those tears that the sermon had drawn from Mackay, he [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] a quantity of liquid sufficient for the [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] were not slow to observe that his tears were of a different degree of deep feeling from those of his neighbors. His face was [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]